

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (previously presented): A method of treating an auto-immune disease in an animal comprising the step of orally administering a dosage of about 50 I.U./kg to about 25,000 I.U./kg of a type one interferon to said animal such that the type one interferon is ingested upon oral administration.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein said interferon is alpha-interferon or beta-interferon.

Claim 3 (original): The method of claim 2, wherein said interferon is selected from the group consisting of human recombinant interferon, rat interferon and murine interferon.

Claim 4 (canceled).

Claim 5 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein said interferon is administered every other day.

Claim 6 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein said animal is a human.

Claim 7 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein said auto-immune disease is selected from the group consisting of multiple sclerosis, rheumatoid arthritis, diabetes mellitus, psoriasis, organ-specific auto-immune diseases, chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyradiculoneuropathy and Guillain-Barré syndrome.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A method of decreasing the severity or frequency of a relapse of multiple sclerosis in a human comprising the step of orally administering a dosage of about 50 I.U./kg to about 50,000 I.U./kg of a type one interferon to said ~~animal~~ human such that the type one interferon is ingested upon oral administration.

Claim 9 (previously presented): The method of claim 8, wherein said interferon is alpha-interferon or beta-interferon.

Claim 10 (original): The method of claim 8, wherein said interferon is selected from the group consisting of human recombinant interferon, rat interferon and murine interferon.

Claim 11(canceled).

Claim 12 (original): The method of claim 8, wherein said interferon is administered every other day.

Claim 13 (currently amended): A method of reducing inflammation associated with ~~an auto-immune disease~~ multiple sclerosis in ~~an animal~~ a human comprising the step of orally administering a dosage of about 50 I.U./kg to about 25,000 I.U./kg of a type one interferon to said ~~animal~~ human such that the type one interferon is ingested after oral administration.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The method of claim 13, wherein said interferon is ~~selected from~~ alpha-interferon ~~and or~~ beta-interferon.

Claim 15 (original): The method of claim 13, wherein said interferon is selected from the group consisting of human recombinant interferon, rat interferon and murine interferon.

Claim 16-18 (canceled).

Claim 19 (currently amended): A method of decreasing the levels of ~~[[a]] cytokine cytokines~~ in an individual having multiple sclerosis, comprising the step of orally administering a dosage of about 166 I.U./kg to about 500 I.U./kg of a type one interferon to said individual, wherein said cytokine is selected from the group consisting of TGF- β , IL-2, IL-10, IFN- γ and ICAM-1; and wherein said type one interferon is ingested upon oral administration.

Claim 20 (canceled).